

Santa Rosa County
Emergency Services Advisory Committee
July 23, 2003
2:00 p.m.

Minutes

Members present:

Joe Diamond
Gerry Goldstein
Lew Oliver
John E. Reble

Chris Rucker
Tony Simmons
Don Vanderryt

Staff present:

Sheryl Bracewell
Deb Grinde

Dave Ling

Agenda approved as submitted for this meeting.

Minutes for meeting held on June 25, 2003 approved as submitted.

Persons to Appear

None

Review of Reports and Statistics

Can progress to general reporting for the next monthly meeting. The reporting should include compliance for urban and rural areas. Reporting will be provided for Fire Departments and Rural Metro.

Review of Correspondence and Additional Information Items

- Reviewed MOU (Memo of Understanding) between all fire departments including Whiting Field and the EMS provider (Rural Metro) for Santa Rosa County.
- Reviewed 2002 Tax Revenue for three (3) fire departments (Avalon, Midway and Holley-Navarre)
- Tax rates and how they are collected

C. Rucker advised that Rural Metro has had a MOU in place with Whiting Field Fire Department for a few years already.

J. Reble believes that the rates for single-family residents should be verified. These rates were provided by the Budget Department.

Old Business

Fuel

Discussion held regarding accountability for obtaining fuel from county yard and those accounts with tax-exempt status.

Reviewed document to be distributed to each department for input regarding the use of fuel. G. Goldstein requested that if the answer to the last question on the document is 'No' the question 'If not, Why?' be added with space for explanation.

Mailing of this document approved by committee members.

Fire Department Survey

Determined throughout entire survey that a more exact number should clarify those questions that refer to 'some' or 'most', etc. Therefore a blank line will be provided instead of answering each question in a vague manner.

Part IV

Add blank spaces for answers to be completed more specifically.

Firefighter Level I refers to volunteer level minimums.

Firefighter Level II refers to paid employee level minimums.

Need for more specific listing of technical rescue types including:

- Trench
- High Angle
- Confined Space
- Hazmat
- Water, Diving
- Boat
- Collapse
- Other _____

Part VI

Eliminate the use of 'on duty on a single shift'.

Discussion held regarding the age of the facilities. J. Reble suggested adding whether building is capable of withstanding 130 mph winds.

Add following: Extrication Equipment
 Number of bays

Date of last pump test
Last date flow checked to latest standard
What standard and/or what age is apparatus
Is PASS device stand-alone or integrated
List ages of devices in 1-5 years and 5-10 years
Tankers, Pumpers
Rescue vehicles, Staff vehicles

Request that department provide a current listing of types of equipment on hand.

Part VII

Questions 31 through 34 will not be included. S. Bracewell will complete those questions. The individual departments, however, will complete question 35. Any additional questions deemed necessary by D. Ling and S. Bracewell will be added to this section.

Discussion held regarding radio frequencies, radio bands, etc, and interoperability between departments and agencies.

Part VIII

Number of occupants will be reduced to 20 in question No. 36.

Number of acres reduced to 250 in question No. 38.

Part IX

Questions combined to form one question and add other _____ as an optional answer.

Firefighter I (160 Hour) Training Program

T. Simmons advised that of those firefighters who have taken the class approximately 75% have passed the requirements.

A second class is will be held during the first half of August. Approximately 25 people, mostly from the north end of the county are interested in attending this class.

A class will be held at the City of Milton Fire Department approximately August 30, 2003.

New Business

County Funding to Firefighter's Association (AED & Jaws Maintenance)

Commissioner Cole has requested a breakdown of \$25,000.00 budgeted for the Volunteer Fire Departments. S. Bracewell provided the following breakdown:

\$20,000.00	67 sets of AEDs, annual maintenance
1,100.00	Vehicle Insurance (\$500/automobile, \$600/air truck)
3,900.00	Jaws, maintenance and parts

Money does not exchange hands. The mechanics of the process is as follows:

Firefighter Association brings quote or proposal to ECC; purchase order is issued out of the Emergency Communications Dept; Firefighter's Association brings invoice to ECC for process through to county Finance Department for payment.

This process was recommended by the Fire Task Force in order to consolidate needs to generate savings.

A discussion was held regarding the mechanics of moving the funds and determined that the issue is actually procedural.

Public Comments and Questions

Mr. Richard Collins, Chumuckla Hwy

Mr. Collins does not object to the allocation of \$25,000.00 to the Firefighter's Association. He does object to the lack of documented procedures (Standard Operating Procedure) for the mechanics of the process. Mr. Collins states that there is no publicized linkage between the BOCC and the Firefighter's Association and that this should be defined in writing.

Everett Pfeiffer, Gulf Rd

Mr. Pfeiffer provided some history of the Santa Rosa County Firefighter's Association. The firefighters had only 3 sets of jaws in 1980. They currently have 29 sets of jaws.

Because the BOCC objected to the idea of the firefighters exposing themselves to injury while trying to collect funds at busy intersections they determined that they would include funds for some of their needs in the county's annual budget.

Mr. Pfeiffer went on to explain some of the goals of the FFA. The goals include getting better equipment and training. They are involved in mutual aid agreements and back up systems in order to provide safety to the citizens of Santa Rosa County.

At this point the committee endorsed a request to continue the funding for FAA to the BOCC.

Richard Collins, Chumuckla Hwy

Mr. Collins suggested to the committee that ESAC send an individual letter to each Fire Chief explaining the purpose of the ESAC, inviting them to attend the meetings and provide any contributions that would benefit the departments. Mr. Collins was advised that input is routinely requested at the FFA meetings.

Everett Pfeiffer, Gulf Rd

Mr. Pfeiffer commended the committee and expressed his appreciation for the work accomplished by the committee.

D. Ling advised that Jimmy Helms from Region I/Emergency Management for the state would be attending the next meeting.

L. Oliver suggested that committee members go to the individual stations and review the surveys with them. A trip to the stations would be twofold. A trip would provide a tour of the facility and indicate an interest by committee members.

Announced that FFA meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Emergency Operations Center.

Next meeting is Wednesday, August 27, 2003 at 2:00 PM